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TITLE: The Establishment of STD Screening and HIV Counseling and Testing Services at a Juvenile Detention Center in Orange County, Florida

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ISSUE: There is difficulty in identifying at-risk youth, and providing STD and HIV counseling and testing services to this population, as there are no identified areas where these youth frequent in Orange County, Florida. Many of the youth incarcerated in the Orange County Juvenile Detention Center are either African American or Hispanics, which correlates with national trends. Providing education and testing to address at-risk behavior has been very difficult, because the at-risk youth are usually not in organized community programs or schools to receive risk reduction information.

SETTING: Since 1996, Orange County Health Department (OCHD in Orlando, Florida, has been providing HIV prevention education and client-centered counseling and testing services to the males at the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC). This collaboration between OCHD and JDC has enable young men to become aware of their risk behaviors and specific ways to reduce their risks.

PROJECT: Health Educator Risk Reduction Coordinator conducts bi-weekly risk reduction presentations and informs youth of dates, testing will be made available at the detention center. In addition, providing HIV counseling and testing services have identified young men who are HIV positive and need referrals for health and ancillary care and partner notification. For example, a 14 year-old bisexual male tested positive for HIV while at JDC and was referred to appropriate secondary prevention services. Partner notification linked 25 gay/bisexual men this young man. Ten of these were either HIV positive at the time of sexual contact or were subsequently HIV positive after contact with this young man. A married couple was linked to this young man and both tested positive for HIV, although at different times. This presentation will include an overview of how to establish this collaboration, including protocols, and a description of the youth served.

RESULTS: A notable number of African American gay/bisexual males has been identified through the counseling and testing services program established at JDC. However, many of the men that were HIV positive at the time of contact with the 14 year-old had not received ancillary services. This presentation will include a description of the people who were linked to the 14 year-old and those that received services.

LESSON LEARNED: The importance of establishing collaborations between health departments and correctional facilities to deliver HIV prevention services.

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